Design Resource

Village Exhibition at Manav Sangrahalaya

The exhibitions of the Indian Villages

by
Palash Vaswani.
IDC, IIT Bombay

Source:
http://www.dsource.in/resource/village-exhibition-manav-sangrahalaya

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Introduction

The open-air exhibition displays an array of splendid traditional and cultural dwellings and structures ranging from Costal Village with their hilly tracts and dense forest zones, to Desert Village and the Himalayan Village. All these villages, with their dwellings and structures and shrines, are built using in-situ raw materials directly by the respective tribal communities. These villages with their marvelous architecture not only reflects a variety of cultural life, but tell a story of bio- cultural evolution of man and his adaptation with space and time. From the household objects to their specific patterns and designs, sacred plants and all the ritualistic objects are planted inside and outside the respective village.

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The Village Exhibition

Coastal village

Desert village

Himalayan village

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Coastal village

As the name suggests, villages from Kerala, Tamilnadu, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, etc. represents the costal villages. One of the major attractions of this exhibit is the shrine of Ayyanar, a popular village guardian deity from Tamilnadu, with terracotta figures of horses and elephants (transport for the Ayyanar) in various sizes. Other eco-friendly structure are the wooden houses of Aarapura and Naalkettu showing antique, carved doors and pillars and beautiful architecture of the house that existed in the ancient days of Kerela. The unique feature of Nalukettu (house build without the use of an iron-nail) has been equally maintained. All the objects related to these villages inside and outside the houses have been recreated and kept in their original style. Not just houses, even the temples, one being close to the exhibit of fisherman village of Arattupuza had been recreated, along with a space for religious dance and lamps for Gods. Other structures include the famous snake boat (Sarp Nauka) a wooden racing bota and chunden vallam. All these structures and dwellings rejuvenate the lifestyle and cultural identities of Indian Coastal communities.

Information display.

Information display.

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Huts in coastal village.

Traditional boat of Kerala.

Traditional boat of Kerala.

Traditional boat of Kerala.

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Traditional boat of Kerala.

Traditional boat of Kerala.

Information display.

Snake boat (Sarp Nauka) of kerala.

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Snake boat (Sarp Nauka) of kerala.

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Snake boat (Sarp Nauka) of kerala.

Information display.

Bhadrakali Temple.

Bhadrakali Temple.

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Bhadrakali Temple.

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Bhadrakali Temple.

Bhadrakali Temple.

Information display.

Aarapura house pattern.

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Aarapura house pattern.

Aarapura house pattern.

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Nalukettu of Kerala.

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Nalukettu of Kerala.

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Information display.

Mirdhabadi of Orrisa.

Mirdhabadi of Orrisa.

Mirdhabadi of Orrisa.

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Mirdhabadi of Orrisa.

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Desert Village

Typical dwelling types from Jaisalmer in Rajasthan, and Kutch in Gujarat are exhibited under the desert village display. The stone architecture of Rajasthan, with huge size stones and chhatris, depicting the elements of pride and honor in Rajput architecture, has been exhibited in similar way. The bhungas (circular huts) with its marvelous clay and mirror work demonstrate the ecological, social and the aesthetic aspects of the nomadic Rabari people of Kutch, Gujarat. Thus desert village exhibit features the process, and the extent of their adaptation to the environment. The entire village has been displayed with various ethnographic objects that reflect the life style and the actuality of the dwelling populations.

The entry gate.

Information display.

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The entry gate.

Mud relief work.

Mud relief work.

Mud relief work.

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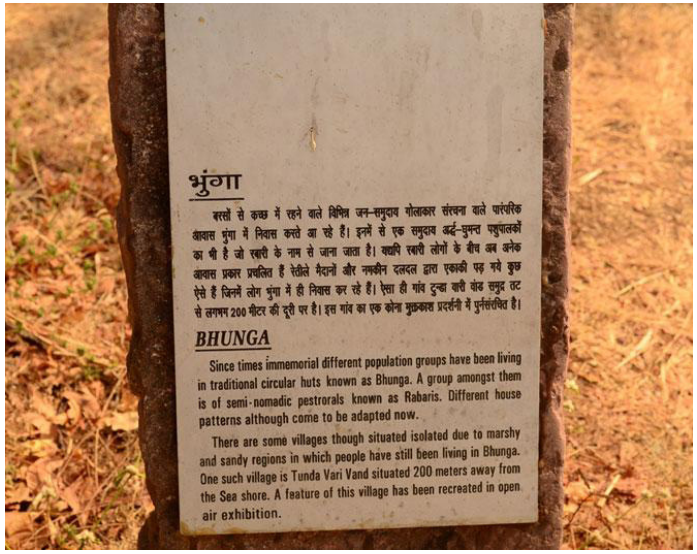
Mud relief work.

The village.



Information display.

Bhunga – dwelling of Rabari tribe from Kutch, Gujrat.

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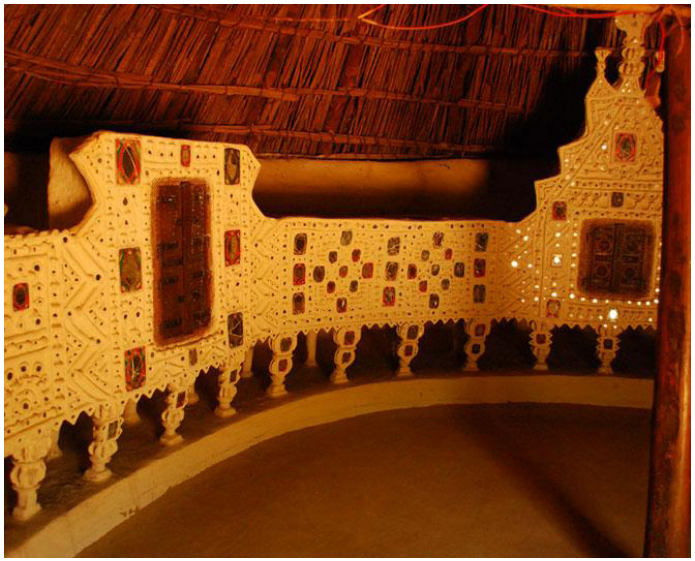

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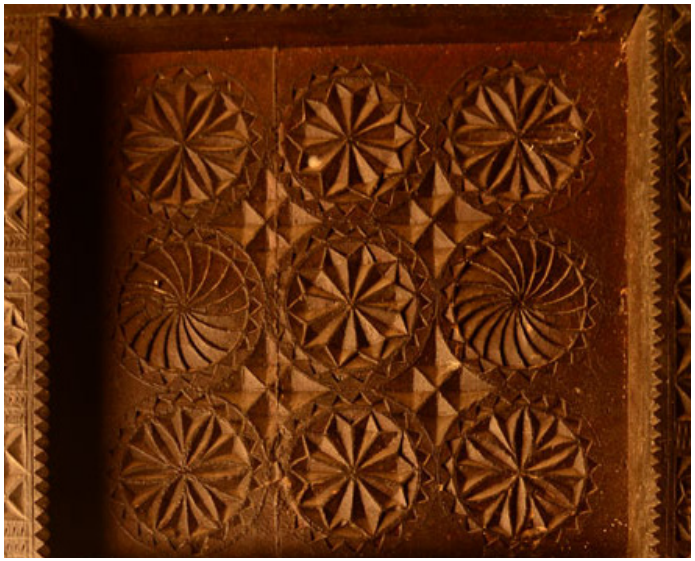

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Information display.

Dwellings from Jaisalmer, Rajasthan.

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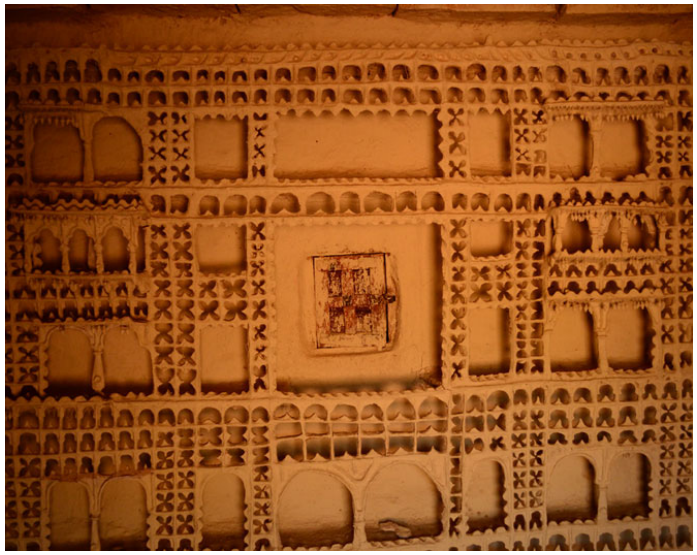

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Information display.

House of Paliwal community from Jaisalmer.

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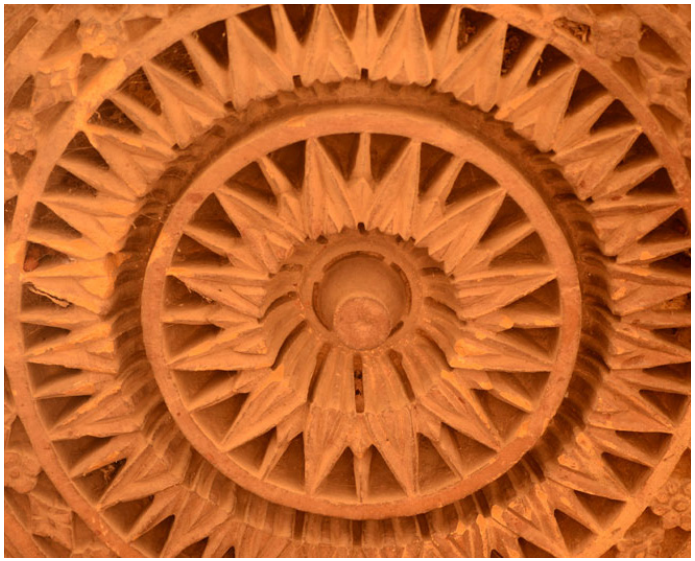

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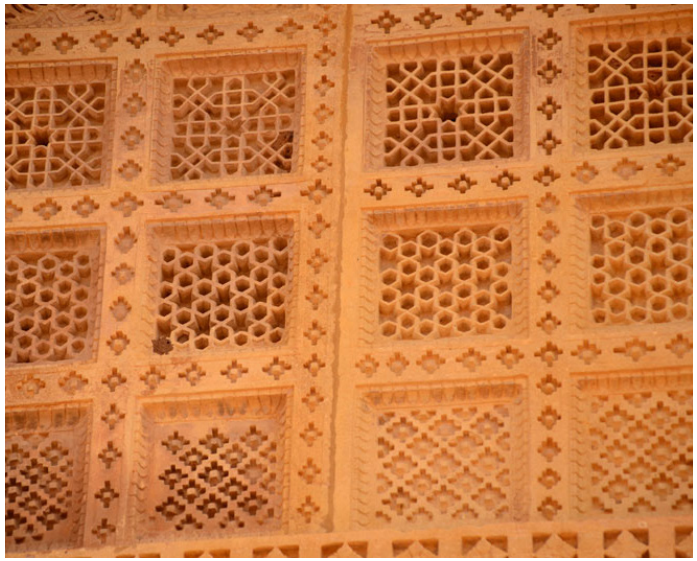

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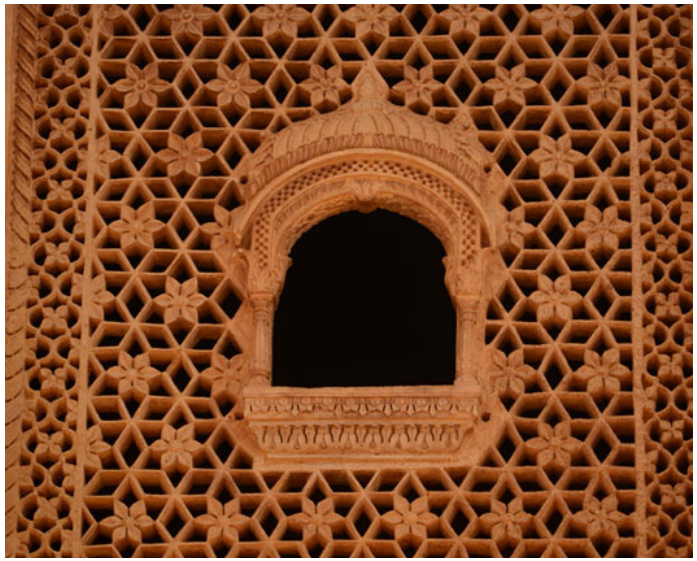

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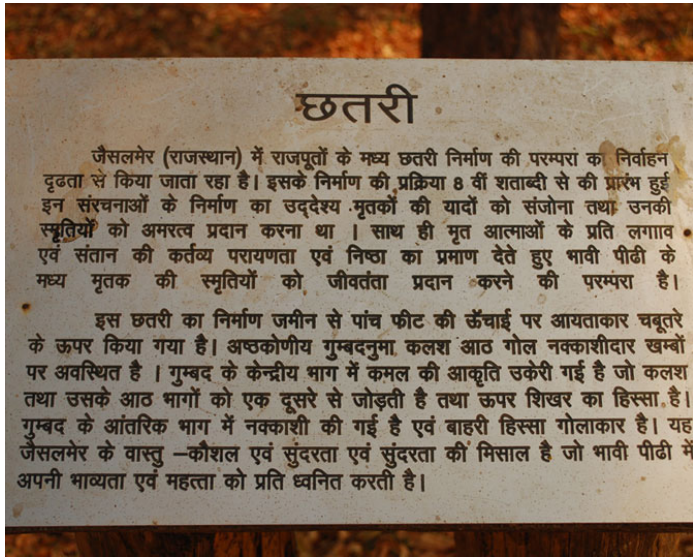

छतरी

जैसलमेर (राजस्थान) में राजपूतों के मध्य छतरी निर्माण की परम्परा का निर्वाहन दृढता से किया जाता रहा है। इसके निर्माण की प्रक्रिया 8 वीं शताब्दी से की प्रारंभ हुई इन संरचनाओं के निर्माण का उद्देश्य मृतकों की यादों को संजोना तथा उनकी स्मृतियों को अमरत्व प्रदान करना था । साथ ही मृत आत्माओं के प्रति लगाव एवं संतान की कर्तव्य परायणता एवं निष्ठा का प्रमाण देते हुए भावी पीढी के मध्य मृतक की स्मृतियों को जीवतंता प्रदान करने की परम्परा है।

इस छतरी का निर्माण जमीन से पांच फीट की ऊँचाई पर आयताकार चबूतरे के ऊपर किया गया है। अष्ठकोणीय गुम्बदनुमा कलश आठ गोल नक्काशीदार खम्बों पर अवस्थित है । गुम्बद के केन्द्रीय भाग में कमल की आकृति उकेरी गई है जो कलश तथा उसके आठ भागों को एक दूसरे से जोड़ती है तथा ऊपर शिखर का हिस्सा है। गुम्बद के आंतरिक भाग में नक्काशी की गई है एवं बाहरी हिस्सा गोलाकार है। यह जैसलमेर के वास्तु –कौशल एवं सुंदरता एवं सुंदरता की मिसाल है जो भावी पीढी में अपनी भाव्यता एवं महत्ता को प्रति ध्वनित करती है।

Information display.

Design Resource

Village Exhibition at Manav Sangrahalaya

The exhibitions of the Indian Villages

by
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IDC, IIT Bombay

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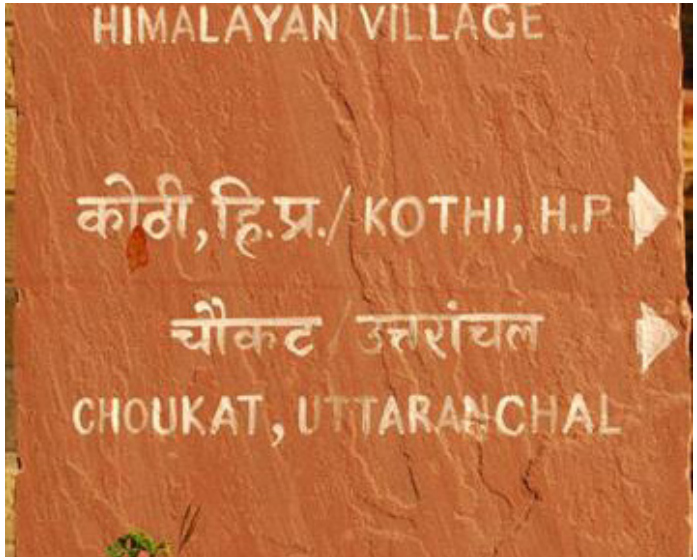
Himalayan village

The Kothis (stone buildings) of Shimla are the main highlights of the Himalayan Village. Certain structures like the entrance gate known as Parol and Parud are build to protect and enhance the beauty of the courtyard reflects the culture and ecology of the terrain of the Himalayan region. Chokat a unique four-storied house from Uttarakhand, with a roof of tone slates reflects the resistance quality. All these exhibits surprise us with the amount of life style, the extent of their adaptation within the country itself.



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Information display.

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Parol gate of Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

Parol gate of Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

Parol gate of Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

Parol gate of Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

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Parol gate of Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

Himalayan village exhibition.

Information display.

Traditional house

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Traditional house

Traditional house

Traditional house

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Traditional house

Traditional house

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Traditional house

Traditional house .

Traditional house

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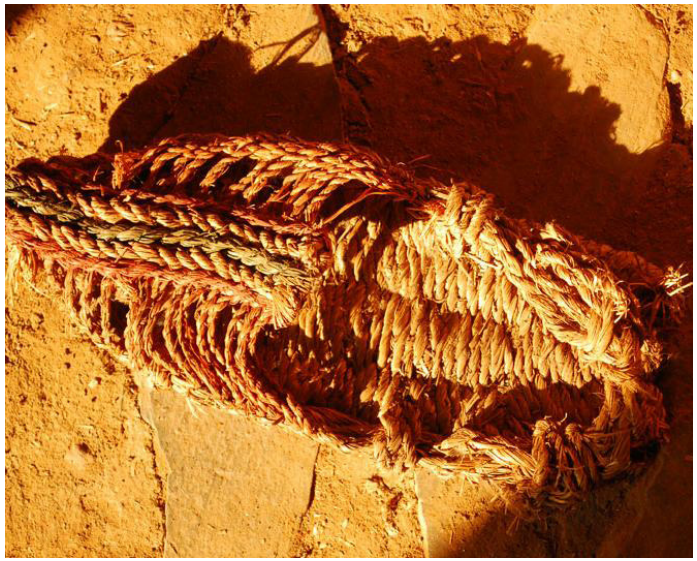
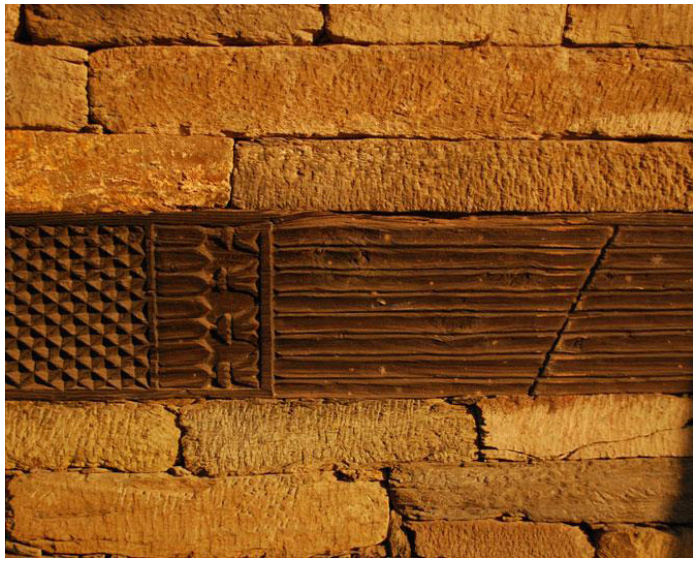


Traditional house

Traditional house



Traditional house

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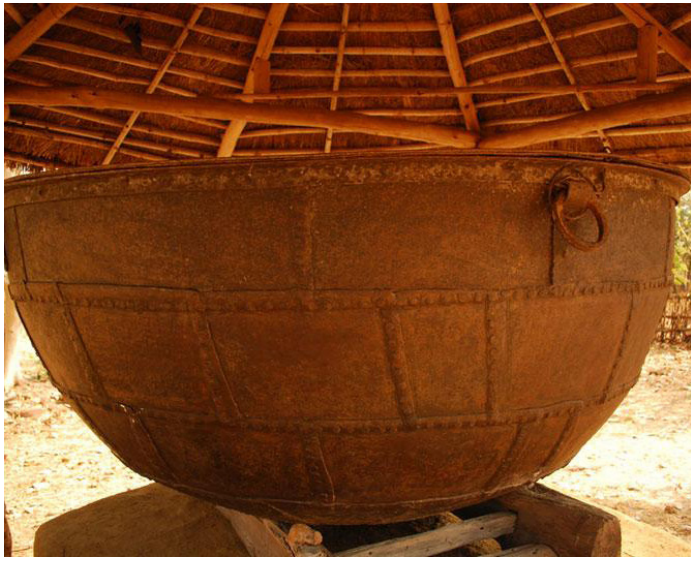
Information display.



Big size

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Big size

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Manav Sangrahalaya

The Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (IGRMS), also known as "The Museum of Mankind" is an open-air anthropology museum that celebrates many traditions and cultures of India. An initiative by the Government of India, it displays the cultural evolution of India in the most detailed manner. Spread across the Shamla hills in Bhopal, it covers a sprawling 200acres of the area.

Being the only museum of its kind, it tells the story of mankind in time and space. The museum exhibits around 40 and more tribal culture and actual-size dwelling of various Indian tribes in different eco-climatic zones of India. The most interesting part of this exhibition is the actual size dwellings and display that has been build up directly by the folk and the tribal communities. It also displays a brilliant collection of pre-historic painted rock shelters, traditional technology used in the earlier days, a trail based on the mythological beliefs of Indian tribes, and sacred groves. Apart from all this, it has modern looking in-door museum, that display a collection of tribal costumes, arts and crafts, agricultural and household implements, and other objects.

There is a well-stocked library, audiovisual archives and a huge collection of ethnographic specimens.

Entry at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya.

Entry at Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya

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Map.

Temporary exhibition hall.

Temporary exhibition hall.

Evening at IGRMS.

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Evening at IGRMS.

Evening at IGRMS.

Evening at IGRMS.

Jackal talking a walk.

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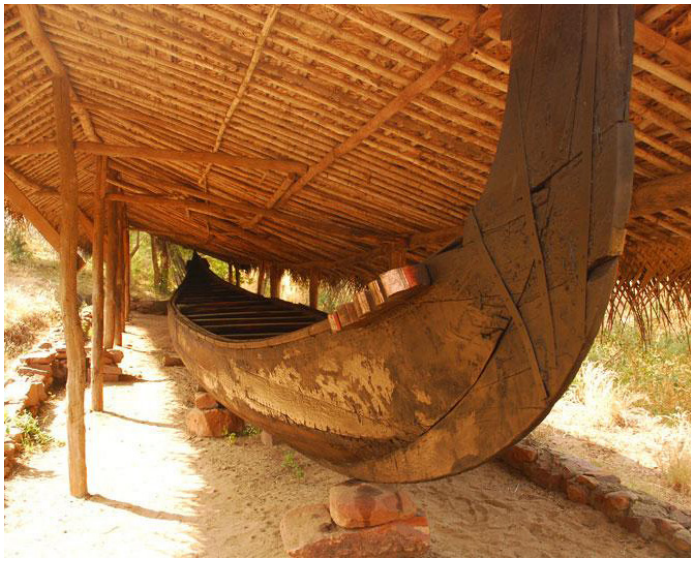
Entry of desert village exhibition.

Entry of desert village exhibition.

Bhunga at display.



Boat at coastal village exhibition.

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Coastal village exhibition.

Sacred grove exhibition.

Veethi Sankul – indoor museum.

Veethi Sankul – indoor museum.

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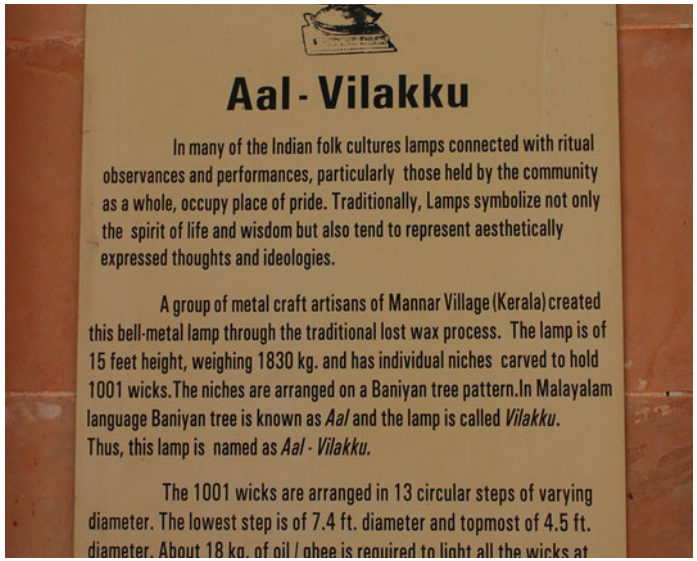
Aal – Vilakku lamp at display.

Aal – Vilakku lamp at display.



Aal - Vilakku

In many of the Indian folk cultures lamps connected with ritual observances and performances, particularly those held by the community as a whole, occupy place of pride. Traditionally, Lamps symbolize not only the spirit of life and wisdom but also tend to represent aesthetically expressed thoughts and ideologies.

A group of metal craft artisans of Mannar Village (Kerala) created this bell-metal lamp through the traditional lost wax process. The lamp is of 15 feet height, weighing 1830 kg. and has individual niches carved to hold 1001 wicks. The niches are arranged on a Baniyan tree pattern. In Malayalam language Baniyan tree is known as *Aal* and the lamp is called *Vilakku*. Thus, this lamp is named as *Aal - Vilakku.*

The 1001 wicks are arranged in 13 circular steps of varying diameter. The lowest step is of 7.4 ft. diameter and topmost of 4.5 ft. diameter. About 18 kg. of oil / ghee is required to light all the wicks at

Information display.

Veethi Sankul – indoor museum.

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Veethi Sankul – indoor museum.

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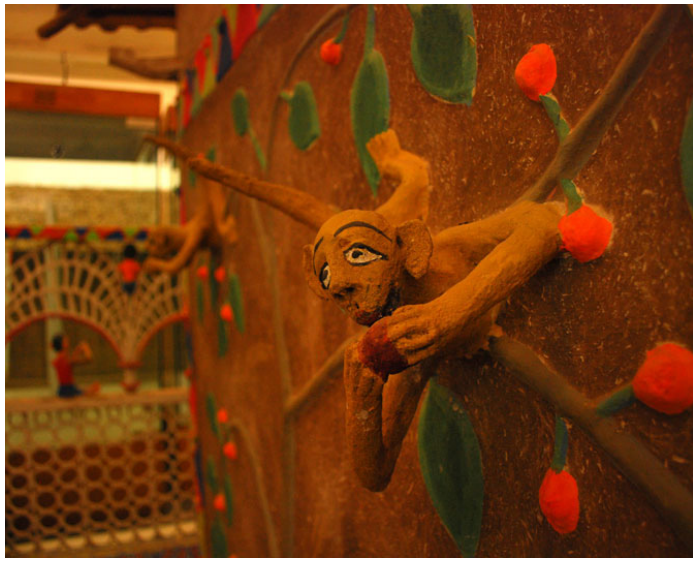

Veethi Sankul – indoor museum.

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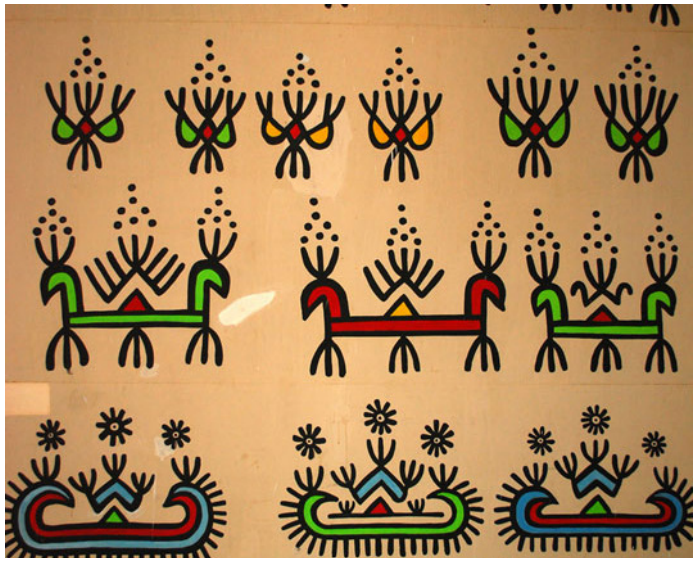

Veethi Sankul – indoor museum.

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Tribal habitat exhibition.

Desert village exhibition.

Interiors of bhunga, huts of Rabaris from kutch, Gujrat.

Woodwork.

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Himalayan Village.

Dussera rath from Bastar region.

Tribal habitat exhibition.

Sacred grove of Manipur.

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Tribal habitat exhibition.

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Hut structure from North-East India is been created.

Tribal habitat exhibition.

Tribal habitat exhibition.

Entry for Mythological Trail.

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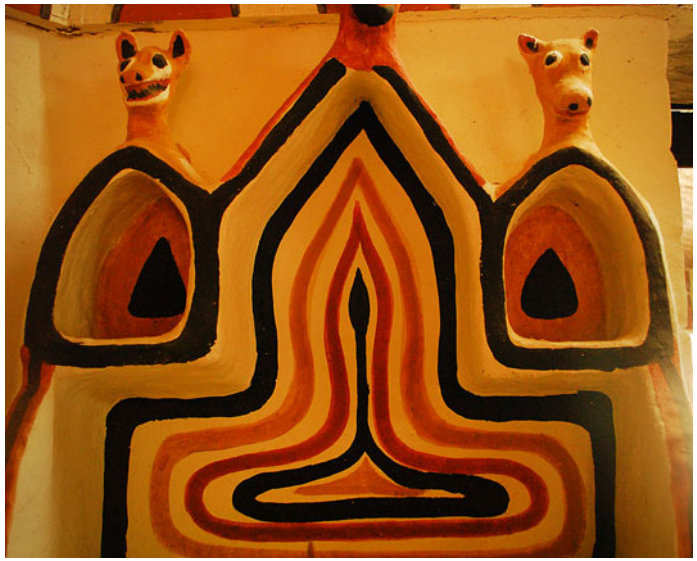

Indoor exhibition.

Indoor exhibition.

Entry for Traditional technology exhibition.

Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya.

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Contact Details

This documentation was done by Palash Vaswani, Design Associate at IDC, IIT Bombay.

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